

LAMENTATION

Over thee O

LONDON

With thy

RULERS and PEOPLE, who hast
slighted the day of thy Visitation, and
resisted the Spirit of the Lord, and despi-
sed his counsel, and evil intreated and
persecuted his Servants, Messengers, and Chil-
dren; and now must receive thy re-
ward at the hand of the Lord.

Rich^d Crane

*And when he was come neer, he beheld the City, and
wept over it, Luke 19. 41.*

*O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the Prophets,
and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how of-
ten would I have gathered thy children together, e-
ven as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings,
and ye would not? Matth. 23. 37.*

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A
LAMENTATION

Over thee O

L O N D O N.

O Thou great City, whose borders are even extended beyond compass, and thy inhabitants like unto the mighty swelling of the sea, even as it were numberlesse, the day of thy judgment is come, and the sword of the mighty God is drawn forth against thee, and he is come to plead the cause of his poor, oppressed, despised, and afflicted ones in thee whom thou hast destinated for destruction, & counted unworthy to live in thee, though the Lord, whose mighty hand is stretched forth against thee, hath placed them there to live out the remnant of time given unto them, and thou seekest with chy utmost strength, to root up what the Lord hath planted, and to separate what he hath joyned together, and in what thou hast done, thou hast even done in despight of his love unto thee; O how hath he striven and wrestled with thee in the bowels of his dear love shed abroad in the hearts of his faithful lambs and servants for this many years past; O how hath the tender breathings of his love visited thee, and thy Rulers, from year to year, and from time to time, and even from day to day, warn-

ing thee and thy Rulers of the day that is come, and hath overtaken thee, and thou hast rewarded them, and art rewarding of them with prisons, whips, stocks, stones, and even with death, and now thou art filling up thy measure with banishment, which punishment is more severe then death it self, and greedily art pursuing thy cruelty upon them by whole-sale, not minding the sword of Gods just judgment, which hath already pierced thy bowels; O thou City with thy inhabitants, that hast made a mock and a scorne of the faithful warnings of the servants of the most high God, ministred and dispenced in thee, early and late, in thy streets, in thy Markets, and in many of thy dwellings, some being made signs unto thee, and others declaring in words the Mind of the Lord concerning thee, and in fulfilling the will of the Lord in true obedience, have delivered their messages unto thee, even with their lives in their hands, in that day, the burden was theirs and they did bear it, and now it is thine, and thou must bear it, and though in times past thou hast been threatned with Judgements of another kind, yet hast thou had thy God at hand, even thy riches and treasure, and with it hast stopped the wrath, which otherwise might have reached thee, and because the mighty God hath permitted things so to work, thou hast sate as a Queen over the Nations, and hast tasted no sorrow, and for that end hast thou magnified thy God, but hast dishonoured God Almighty, who is come to plead with thee in judgment, and now sorrow shalt thou both feel and witnesse, and he who is thy Judge will not at all be bribed, thy gold, thy silver, thy riches, and all thy costly delicates, will stand thee

thee in no stead, unlesse it be to adde plague unto plague, for Just is the Lord who is come to judge, and he will make inquisition in thee, even in thee, O City for the innocent blood which hath been shed in our meetings, in your prisons, and on your pavements, and also for those souls who have been most barbarously thrust out of their native land, into exile, their cries with their wives, & tender children, are entred into the ears of the Lord God, and he hath regard unto them, and for their sakes, yea even for their sakes, is he entred into judgement with thee, O City and thy inhabitants, for thou mayst observe that before thy rulers put forth their cruel hands to execute that barbarous penalty of banishment upon the people of the Lord, called Quakers, the judgement of the Lord which is now made visible, was withheld, but as soon as they did make a president of their malice, the Lord did shew an example of his judgement, yea and not many doors *from the habitation of that faithful servant and Saint of the most high God *Edward Brusb*, who with his dear Companion, *James Hardin*, was the first in *England* that the Lord permitted thy Rulers, O City, to wreak their wrath upon, yet this was not at all laid to heart, or taken notice of, but the ice being broke, or entry made, into this bloody work, seven more of the precious Lambs of the Lord, were most barbarously thrust out of their native land into exile; and here was thy first aggravation, concerning this thing, and after them eight more for their precious testimony unto Gods dear truth thrust out of the Nation in the like manner, and besides those numbers that are condemned by thy Rulers for banishment

* It was said that in or near Beerbinder lane, a mealman were shut up of the Plague, who was E. B. his near neighbor soon after he was banished.

ment now in that dismal cell of *Newgate*, who for want of room and aire, many times, and my eyes with weeping tears have beheld them, panting even for breath through the grates of thy prison, and all this thou layest not to heart, O City, neither thy Rulers, nor Inhabitants, but notwithstanding the Lord is entered into judgement with thee, and is giving thee a Cup which thou must drink, by sending his Messenger amongst you, even his Plagues, which is that, which must and will awaken thee to receive thy reward; thou goest on still, and does what in thee lies, to perpetrate the destruction of them people, that never did, neither said thee harme ever since they had a being, in that life which cannot reward or recompence evil with evil; but this in time thou must see and also confesse.

And though many may seek to save themselves by flight from the Judgments come, & coming; yet let such know, though they mount upon dromadaries for hast, the hand of God Almighty will overtake them, yea the strong shall pursue the swift, and take hold on him, and to that end shall confession be made by every tongue, that the Judgements of God are Just, and righteous, and that they are not come upon thee, O City, and thy Inhabitants at unawares, but many years warnings hast thou had, yea thou hast been warned near this twenty years by the servants of the most high, as aforesaid, and know this, it is not only for thy grosse unclean sins, which thou hast accumelated, which in these late years have so much abounded, but this is the sweep of thy drag persecution, yea *PERSECUTION* and the very malice of it, is that
above

above all other, that doth awaken the wrath of God, and bring down vengeance upon a generation, this hath been known, this is known, and this will the Lord make thee know in time.

And this may be said of thee, O City, as of *Jerusalem*, and a Lamentation taken up for thee, yea a bitter Lamentation; *O that thou hadst known in the day of thy visitation, the things that belong to thy peace, but now are they hid from thy eyes.*

Woe is me for thee, O City, where is the man that shall stand in the gap, and make atonement unto the Lord, whose fierce wrath is kindled against thee, warnings thou hast slighted, good Counsel and reproof from the Lord thou hast rejected, the mercies and blessings of the Lord God thou hast sacrificed thy lust, and hast lived out of the fence of him, who would have drawn thee unto himselfe by the cords of love, as with the cords of a man, but thou hast despised it, and now must thou eat the fruits of thy works; and this is thy portion from the Just hand of the Lord.

R. C.

THE END.